

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 2, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 16, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 12, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 18, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2800

Introduced by Assembly Member Quirk

February 19, 2016

An act to add *and repeal* Section 71155 to of the Public Resources Code, relating to climate change.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2800, as amended, Quirk. Climate change: infrastructure planning.

Existing law requires the Natural Resources Agency, by July 1, 2017, and every 3 years thereafter, to update the state's climate adaptation strategy to identify vulnerabilities to climate change by sectors and priority actions needed to reduce the risks in those sectors.

This ~~bill~~ *bill, until July 1, 2020*, would require state agencies to take into account the expected impacts of climate change when planning, designing, building, and investing in state infrastructure. The bill, by July 1, 2017, would require the agency to establish a Climate-Safe Infrastructure Working Group for the purpose of examining how to integrate scientific data concerning projected climate change impacts into state infrastructure engineering, as prescribed. The bill would require the working group to consist of registered professional engineers with *specified* relevant expertise from the Department of Transportation, the Department of Water Resources, the Department of General

Services, and other relevant state ~~agencies and agencies~~; scientists with ~~certain specified~~ expertise from the University of ~~California and California~~, the California State ~~University systems. University, and other institutions~~; and ~~licensed architects with specified relevant experience~~. The bill would require the working group, by July 1, 2018, to recommend to the Legislature a process for integrating scientific knowledge of projected climate change impacts into state infrastructure design and addressing information gaps in a timely manner.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) The impacts of climate change are already being felt in
- 4 California and include record-breaking drought, wildfires, flooding,
- 5 sea level rise, coastal erosion, and heat waves. These impacts are
- 6 projected to worsen with a future punctuated by what are now
- 7 considered extreme weather events.
- 8 (b) As the climate warms, California will need to design and
- 9 maintain infrastructure, including, but not limited to, roads, bridges,
- 10 buildings, and water systems, to withstand increasingly severe
- 11 impacts.
- 12 (c) The scientific community is developing sound scientific
- 13 understanding of projected impacts from climate change. The
- 14 engineers responsible for overseeing, designing, and building state
- 15 infrastructure must consider the influence of climate change
- 16 impacts on siting and design standards and specifications.
- 17 (d) As California spends billions of dollars on infrastructure,
- 18 expecting it to last many decades, state engineers should be
- 19 provided with information on projected climate change impacts
- 20 that they should consider when establishing standards and planning
- 21 and designing structures that are critical to California's economy
- 22 and public safety.
- 23 (e) Prolonged heat waves, extreme precipitation events, severe
- 24 drought, increasing wildfires, and other potentially dangerous
- 25 climate change impacts will require significant changes in
- 26 designing and building projects, such as roads, bridges, buildings,

1 and water infrastructure, and require planning for the resilience
2 and restoration of natural systems.

3 (f) There is a significant body of climate science being
4 developed and continually updated to inform decisionmakers and
5 provide guidance on the predicted impacts. Infrastructure project
6 planning and design must incorporate design standards and
7 specifications for climate change impacts.

8 (g) Due to Executive Order B-30-15, current efforts by state
9 agencies provide built-in resources, processes, and expertise that
10 can be utilized to provide coordination between scientists and those
11 responsible for designing, building, and overseeing critical state
12 infrastructure.

13 SEC. 2. Section 71155 is added to the Public Resources Code,
14 to read:

15 71155. (a) State agencies shall take into account the expected
16 impacts of climate change when planning, designing, building,
17 and investing in state infrastructure.

18 (b) (1) By July 1, 2017, the agency shall establish a
19 Climate-Safe Infrastructure Working Group for the purpose of
20 examining how to integrate scientific data concerning projected
21 climate change impacts into state infrastructure engineering,
22 including oversight, investment, design, and construction.

23 (2) The working group shall consist of the following:

24 (A) Professional engineers registered in accordance with Chapter
25 7 (commencing with Section 6700) of Division 3 of the Business
26 and Professions Code with relevant expertise in state infrastructure
27 design from the Department of Transportation, the Department of
28 Water Resources, the Department of General Services, and other
29 relevant state agencies, as applicable.

30 (B) Scientists from the University of ~~California and California,~~
31 the California State University systems with *University, and other*
32 *institutions who have expertise in climate change projections and*
33 *impacts in California, including scientists who produce publicly*
34 *available climate data concerning California and its regions: across*
35 *California.*

36 ~~(3) Membership of the working group shall be reasonably and~~
37 ~~equitably distributed between the groups specified in paragraph~~
38 ~~(2).~~

39 (C) *Licensed architects with relevant experience in state*
40 *infrastructure design, as applicable.*

1 (3) *The two groups specified in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of*
2 *paragraph (2) shall be equitably represented in the membership*
3 *of the working group, to the extent reasonable and appropriate.*

4 (4) The working group shall work in coordination with other
5 climate adaptation planning efforts and shall consider and build
6 upon existing information produced by the state, among other
7 resources.

8 (c) The working group may wish to consider and offer
9 recommendations on the following issues:

10 (1) The current barriers to integrating projected climate change
11 impacts into state infrastructure design.

12 (2) The development of practicable guidelines for planning and
13 designing infrastructure that is more resilient to the expected
14 impacts of climate change.

15 (3) The identification of gaps in the critical information that
16 engineers responsible for infrastructure design and construction
17 need to address climate change impacts.

18 (4) Consideration of the appropriate engineering design for
19 multiple projected scenarios for future climate change.

20 (5) Consideration of a platform or process to facilitate
21 communication between climate scientists and infrastructure
22 engineers.

23 (d) By July 1, 2018, the working group shall recommend to the
24 Legislature a process for integrating scientific knowledge of
25 projected climate change impacts into state infrastructure design
26 and for addressing the information gaps in a timely manner.

27 (e) For the purposes of this section, “infrastructure” has the
28 same meaning as defined in Section 13101 of the Government
29 Code.

30 (f) *This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2020, and,*
31 *as of January 1, 2021, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,*
32 *that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2021, deletes or*
33 *extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.*